



VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL APPROACH ANGLE PLANE
FIGURE 2

[36 FR 22902, Dec. 2, 1971, as amended at 44 FR 68475, Nov. 29, 1979; 47 FR 52451, Nov. 22, 1982; 56 FR 26039, June 6, 1991; 60 FR 43050 and 43055, Aug. 18, 1995]

§ 571.202 Standard No. 202; Head restraints.

S1. Purpose and scope. This standard specifies requirements for head restraints to reduce the frequency and severity of neck injury in rear-end and other collisions.

S2. *Application.* This standard applies to passenger cars, and to multipurpose passenger vehicles, trucks and buses with a GVWR of 10,000 pounds or less.

S3. *Definitions.* *Head restraint* means a device that limits rearward angular displacement of the occupant's head relative to his torso line.

S4. *Requirements.*

S4.1 Each passenger car shall comply with S4.3.

S4.2 Each truck, multipurpose passenger vehicle and bus with a GVWR of 10,000 pounds or less, manufactured on or after September 1, 1991, shall comply with S4.3.

S4.3 *Performance levels.* Except for school buses, a head restraint that conforms to either (a) or (b) shall be provided at each outboard front designated seating position. For school buses, a head restraint that conforms to either (a) or (b) shall be provided for the driver's seating position. (a) It shall, when tested in accordance with S5.1, during a forward acceleration of at least 8g on the seat supporting structure, limit rearward angular displacement of the head reference line to 45° from the torso reference line; or

(b) It shall, when adjusted to its fully extended design position, conform to each of the following—

(1) When measured parallel to torso line, the top of the head restraint shall not be less than 27.5 inches above the seating reference point;

(2) When measured either 2.5 inches below the top of the head restraint or 25 inches above the seating reference point, the lateral width of the head restraint shall be not less than—

(i) 10 inches for use with bench-type seats; and

(ii) 6.75 inches for use with individual seats;

(3) When tested in accordance with S5.2, any portion of the head form in contact with the head restraint shall not be displaced to more than 4 inches perpendicularly rearward of the displaced extended torso reference line during the application of the load specified in S5.2(c); and

(4) When tested in accordance with S5.2, the head restraint shall withstand an increasing load until one of the following occurs:

(i) Failure of the seat or seat back; or,

(ii) Application of a load of 200 pounds.

S5. *Demonstration procedures.*

S5.1 Compliance with S4.3(a) shall be demonstrated in accordance with the following with the head restraint in its fully extended design position:

(a) On the exterior profile of the head and torso of a dummy having the weight and seated height of a 95th percentile adult male with an approved representation of a human, articulated neck structure, or an approved equivalent test device, establish reference lines by the following method:

(1) Position the dummy's back on a horizontal flat surface with the lumbar joints in a straight line.

(2) Rotate the head of the dummy rearward until the back of the head contacts the same flat horizontal surface in paragraph (1).

(3) Position the SAE J-826 two-dimensional manikin's back against the flat surface in S5.1(a)(1), alongside the dummy with the h-point of the manikin aligned with the h-point of the dummy.

(4) Establish the torso line of the manikin as defined in SAE Aerospace-Automotive Drawing Standards, sec. 2.3.6, P.E1.01, September 1963.

(5) Establish the dummy torso reference line by superimposing the torso line of the manikin on the torso of the dummy.

(6) Establish the head reference line by extending the dummy torso reference line onto the head.

(b) At each designated seating position having a head restraint, place the dummy, snugly restrained by a Type 1 seat belt, in the manufacturer's recommended design seated position.

(c) During a forward acceleration applied to the structure supporting the seat as described below, measure the maximum rearward angular displacement between the dummy torso reference line and the head reference line. When graphically depicted, the magnitude of the acceleration curve shall not be less than that of a half-sine wave having the amplitude of 8g and a duration of 80 milliseconds and not more than that of a half-sine wave

curve having an amplitude of 9.6g and a duration of 96 milliseconds.

S5.2 Compliance with S4.3(b) shall be demonstrated in accordance with the following with the head restraint in its fully extended design position:

(a) Place a test device, having the back pan dimensions and torso line (centerline of the head room probe in full back position), of the three dimensional SAE J826 manikin, at the manufacturer's recommended design seated position.

(b) Establish the displaced torso reference line by applying a rearward moment of 3,300 in. lb. about the seating reference point to the seat back through the test device back pan located in (a).

(c) After removing the back pan, using a 6.5 inch diameter spherical head form or a cylindrical head form having a 6.5 inch diameter in plan view and a 6-inch height in profile view, apply, perpendicular to the displaced torso reference line, a rearward initial load 2.5 inches below the top of the head restraint that will produce a 3,300 in. lb. moment about the seating reference point.

(d) Gradually increase this initial load to 200 pounds or until the seat or seat back fails, whichever occurs first.

[36 FR 22902, Dec. 2, 1971, as amended at 54 FR 39187, Sept. 25, 1989; 61 FR 27025, May 30, 1996]

§ 571.203 Standard No. 203; Impact protection for the driver from the steering control system.

S1. *Purpose and scope.* This standard specifies requirements for steering control systems that will minimize chest, neck, and facial injuries to the driver as a result of impact.

S2. *Application.* This standard applies to passenger cars and to multipurpose passenger vehicles, trucks and buses with a GVWR of 10,000 pounds or less. However, it does not apply to vehicles that conform to the frontal barrier crash requirements (S5.1) of Standard No. 208 (49 CFR 571.208) by means of other than seat belt assemblies. It also does not apply to walk-in vans.

S3. *Definitions.* *Steering control system* means the basic steering mechanism and its associated trim hardware, including any portion of a steering col-

umn assembly that provides energy absorption upon impact.

S4. *Requirements.* Each passenger car and each multipurpose passenger vehicle, truck and bus with a GVWR of 10,000 pounds or less manufactured on or after September 1, 1981, shall meet the requirements of S5.1 and S5.2.

S5. *Impact protection requirements.*

S5.1 Except as herein provided, the steering control system of any vehicle to which this standard applies shall be impacted in accordance with S5.1(a). However, the steering control system of any such vehicle manufactured on or before August 31, 1996, may be impacted in accordance with S5.1(b).

(a) When the steering control system is impacted by a body block in accordance with SAE Recommended Practice J944 JUN80 *Steering Control System—Passenger Car—Laboratory Test Procedure*, at a relative velocity of 15 miles per hour, the impact force developed on the chest of the body block transmitted to the steering control system shall not exceed 2,500 pounds, except for intervals whose cumulative duration is not more than 3 milliseconds.

(b) When the steering control system is impacted in accordance with Society of Automotive Engineers Recommended Practice J944, "Steering Wheel Assembly Laboratory Test Procedure," December 1965, or an approved equivalent, at a relative velocity of 15 miles per hour, the impact force developed on the chest of the body block transmitted to the steering control system shall not exceed 2,500 pounds, except for intervals whose cumulative duration is not more than 3 milliseconds.

S5.2 The steering control system shall be so constructed that no components or attachments, including horn actuating mechanisms and trim hardware, can catch the driver's clothing or jewelry during normal driving maneuvers.

NOTE: The term jewelry refers to watches, rings, and bracelets without loosely attached or dangling members.

[36 FR 22902, Dec. 2, 1971, as amended at 44 FR 68475, Nov. 29, 1979; 47 FR 47842, Oct. 28, 1982; 58 FR 26527, May 4, 1993; 58 FR 63304, Dec. 1, 1993]